

LIFE

MARCH 27, 1964

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

THE CIA

Sirs:

I am puzzled by your editorial of March 6. You defend the CIA against liberal critics who attack its independence in policy-making, yet you avoid making any judgment on the more important issue of the CIA's "successes" in engineering the overthrow of hostile governments in Guatemala and Iran and its failures at the Bay of Pigs.

If this Cold War is truly one of rival ideologies, we should practice the democracy we preach or risk forfeiting our world leadership in advocating freedom and national self-determination.

FREDERIC S. LACROIX

Lincoln, Neb.

Sirs:

In your editorial I am identified as "among the CIA's new-wave critics."

I first introduced legislation calling for the creation of a Joint Committee on Foreign Information and Intelligence in the 83rd Congress almost 10 years ago—in 1954. I introduced similar bills in the 84th, 85th, 86th, 87th and 88th Congresses.

EUGENE J. MCCARTHY

United States Senate
Washington, D.C.